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Forty-seventh session
SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
Agenda item 75

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

Argentina, Canada, Egypt, Japan, Nigeria and Poland: draft resolution

Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and all other relevant resolutions,

Recalling, in particular, its resolution 46/48 of 9 December 1991,

Welcoming the progress made by the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations during its recent sessions,

Convinced that peace-keeping operations are enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing that the peacemaking activities of the Secretary-General and of organs of the United Nations, which are actions to bring hostile parties to agreement, essentially through such peaceful means as those foreseen in Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations, constitute an essential function of the United Nations and are among the important means of the prevention, containment and resolution of disputes and for maintaining international peace and security,

Taking into account the fact that increasing activities in the field of United Nations peace-keeping require both increasing and better managed human, financial and material resources for the Organization,

Aware of the extremely difficult financial situation of the United Nations and its peace-keeping operations, and of the heavy burden on the troop contributors, especially those from developing countries,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, 1/ and in particular his report entitled "An Agenda for Peace", 2/

Taking note also of the useful exchange of views on "An Agenda for Peace" during the intersessional meetings devoted to that report, 3/ and of the Special Committee's role in carrying out further analysis and consideration, in particular as regards peace-keeping operations,

Recalling its debate on agenda item 10 during the forty-seventh session, and in particular the views expressed by Member States on "An Agenda for Peace",

Recalling also that in the statement by the President of the Security Council of 29 October 1992, 4/ on "An Agenda for Peace", the Council expressed support for, inter alia, the suggestions contained in paragraphs 51 and 52 of the report of the Secretary-General,

Having examined the reports of the Special Committee, 5/

1. Takes note of the reports of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations;

I. Resources

2. Notes that only a small number of Member States have to date responded to the questionnaire issued by the Secretary-General on 21 May 1990 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/49 of 8 December 1989 to identify those personnel, material and technical resources and services which Member States would be ready, in principle, to contribute to United Nations peace-keeping operations, and urges Member States which have not replied to do so;

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/47/1).

2/ A/47/277-S/24111.

3/ See A/47/386.

4/ S/24728.

5/ A/47/253, A/47/386.

3. Requests the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of improving the formulation of his questionnaire of 21 May 1990, and to recirculate the questionnaire on a regular basis;

4. Encourages the Secretary-General to consider circulating a separate questionnaire on civil police and civilian experts which Member States would be ready to contribute to United Nations peace-keeping operations;

5. Urges Member States to transmit promptly to the Secretary-General their replies to these questionnaires;

6. Recommends that the guidelines in the current questionnaire be developed and used subsequently in the "Notes for Guidance" in order to achieve a standard organization for type units;

7. Calls upon the Secretariat to consult with and assist Member States in completing the questionnaires, with a view to ensuring commonality of approach and understanding;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to promote, based on the questionnaires, the establishment on a voluntary basis among Member States of a pool of resources, including military units, military observers, civil police, key staff personnel and humanitarian matériel, that might be made readily available to United Nations peace-keeping operations subject to national approval;

9. Encourages Member States to inform the Secretary-General of their willingness to provide forces or capabilities to the United Nations for peace-keeping operations and the type of units or capabilities that might be available at short notice, subject to overriding national defence requirements and the approval of the Governments providing them;

10. Encourages the Secretariat and those Member States which have indicated such willingness to enter into direct dialogue so as to enable the Secretary-General to know with greater precision what forces or capabilities might be made available to the United Nations for particular peace-keeping operations, and on what time-scale;

11. Stresses the need for the United Nations to be given resources commensurate with its growing responsibilities in the area of peace-keeping, particularly with reference to the resources needed for the start-up phases of such operations;

II. Finances

12. Recalls that the financing of peace-keeping operations is the collective responsibility of all Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations, and reiterates its call upon all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full and on time, and encourages those States which can do so to make voluntary contributions acceptable to the Secretary-General;

13. Reiterates the need to maintain the accepted principles and guidelines on the financing of all United Nations peace-keeping operations;

14. Stresses the need to delegate increased financial and administrative authority to Force Commanders, or Special Representatives for multi-component missions, in order to increase the missions' capacity to adjust to new situations and specific requirements;

15. Encourages consideration in the appropriate forums of the establishment of a reserve fund or other appropriate arrangement to improve the start-up financing of peace-keeping operations;

16. Also stresses the importance of the need to reimburse the outstanding dues of troop-contributing States;

17. Considers it important that in establishing future peace-keeping operations, financial questions should continue to be studied seriously, particularly at the planning stage, in order to ensure the most cost effective and efficient conduct of such operations and strict control of their expenditures;

18. Also considers it important to contain financial expenditures of peace-keeping operations by determining during initial planning the levels of personnel, materials and technical equipment required, by early definition of the sequence of each operation, and by improved estimating, during the planning stage, of operational costs;

19. Acknowledges the competence of the General Assembly for the appropriation and apportionment of the costs of United Nations peace-keeping operations, and also acknowledges the importance of the Security Council members being informed of the cost implications of such operations;

20. Emphasizes the importance of making, from the standpoint of sources of financing, a clear distinction between peace-keeping operations themselves, and the provision to States and parties to a conflict at their request of other assistance from the specialized agencies and departments of the United Nations not an integral part of the operation;

21. Considers, in view of the critical financial situation of the United Nations, as described in the report of the Secretary-General 6/ that the issue of supplementing diversified financial resources, on terms acceptable to the Secretary-General, to the assessed contributions should be further studied in all the appropriate forums;

22. Recognizes the need for an augmentation of the strength and capability of military staff serving in the Secretariat and of civilian staff dealing more generally with peace-keeping matters in the Secretariat;

23. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on this subject as soon as possible; in this report he might consider the establishment in the Secretariat of an enhanced peace-keeping planning staff and an operations centre in order to deal with the growing complexity of initial planning and control of peace-keeping operations in the field;

24. Urges host States to take all necessary measures to create conditions which will permit United Nations forces to be kept to a minimum, and equally urges them to provide, in accordance with their capacity, the greatest possible logistic and material support for these operations;

III. Organization and effectiveness

25. Invites the Secretary-General, as Chief Administrative Officer, to consider the necessary strengthening and reform of the Secretariat units dealing with peace-keeping operations, so they can deal effectively and efficiently with the planning, launching, ongoing management and termination of peace-keeping operations;

26. Welcomes the creation of the Department of Peace-keeping Operations and invites the Secretary-General to consider the creation of a unified, integrated structure within the Department to establish clear lines of responsibility and accountability which are essential for the effective and efficient management of peace-keeping operations; in this regard, it requests the Secretary-General to consider whether relevant parts of the Field Operations Division should be transferred to this Department;

27. Also welcomes, in the light of the increasing use of civilian police in peace-keeping operations, the Secretary-General's decision to appoint a Senior Police Adviser;

28. Requests the Secretariat to consider, in due course, the utility of training guidelines for civilian specialized units, including civilian police;

6/ A/46/600/Add.2.

29. Encourages all Member States to organize national or regional training programmes, to include cross-cultural education and relevant international humanitarian law in such programmes, and to promote cooperation with other national and regional peace-keeping training programmes;

30. Takes note with appreciation of the Secretary-General's report on the feasibility, including costs, of establishing an annual peace-keeping fellowship programme for national peace-keeping trainers to be administered by the Secretariat, 7/ and the information he has gathered on national peace-keeping training and similar activities and requests him to issue a regularly updated list based upon national submissions;

31. Invites the Secretary-General to institute proper arrangements and procedures for providing additional personnel on a short-term basis in order to ensure that the Secretariat can respond effectively and efficiently to fluctuations in its workload, particularly when new operations are planned and launched;

32. Reiterates its invitation to the Secretary-General to consider identifying a focal point for contacts by Member States seeking information on all facets, including operational and administrative matters of ongoing and planned peace-keeping operations;

33. Also invites the Secretary-General to review, with a view to streamlining procedures and enhancing effectiveness, the applicable United Nations financial and administrative regulations concerning peace-keeping operations;

34. Further invites the Secretary-General to consider means whereby Special Representatives/Force Commanders and other key personnel are identified at the earliest possible time;

35. Recommends that the Secretary-General conduct a study on how to prevent duplication of responsibilities of civilian and military staff personnel in the field, especially in the areas of supply, communication and transportation, and to improve their interaction and cooperation in fulfilling the tasks assigned to them;

36. Invites the Secretary-General immediately to envisage the adoption of all necessary arrangements to define logistics doctrine and standard operational procedures combining civilian and military aspects, in order to achieve the greatest possible efficiency and cost-effectiveness, and urges Member States to cooperate with the Secretary-General in this exercise;

37. Encourages the Secretary-General to invite Member States to provide qualified military and civilian personnel to assist the Secretariat in the planning and management of peace-keeping operations;

7/ A/47/604.

38. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for reporting on peace-keeping operations and requests him to report periodically on the performance of all peace-keeping operations;

39. Requests the Secretary-General to consider establishing a training programme for key staff personnel of peace-keeping operations with a view to creating a pool of trained personnel with knowledge of the United Nations system and its working procedures;

40. Requests the Secretariat immediately to make all necessary arrangements for the reissue of The Blue Helmets in 1995;

41. Recommends that the Secretariat continue the existing practice of informal consultations with contributing States more directly interested, as appropriate, and that, especially for particularly large or complex operations, these informal consultations be held on a more frequent and regular basis, with a view to providing effective follow-up and support to the operation from its initial stage to its termination;

IV. Development of peace-keeping

42. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on ways of strengthening the capacity of the United Nations for preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peace-keeping within the framework and provisions of the Charter, as requested by the Security Council Summit of Heads of State and Government held on 31 January 1992;

43. Considers that the concept of preventive peace-keeping, that is, the deployment of peace-keeping operations as a deterrent to a possible aggressor, requires development and clarification as a helpful tool for the United Nations in its pursuit of preventive diplomacy;

44. Believes that the Secretary-General should have the means to dispatch his own missions, with the consent of the parties concerned, where necessary in cooperation with regional organizations, and to evaluate the situation and develop his peacemaking activities as appropriate;

45. Further believes that the Declaration on Fact-finding by the United Nations in the Field of the Maintenance of International Peace and Security approved by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session in resolution 46/59 of 9 December 1991 is a valuable contribution to the Organization's preventive functions;

46. Encourages Member States to provide the Secretary-General full and up-to-date information concerning tensions that could escalate into an international conflict;

47. Believes, in this connection, that the closest attention needs to be paid to the issue of applying the preventive potential of the United Nations

more broadly, and considers that the responsibilities of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Secretary-General in this regard should be strengthened in accordance with the framework and provisions of the Charter;

48. Recognizes the importance of according special consideration to mechanisms and means of deterring a potential aggressor and procedures for a prompt and effective response to acts of aggression and threats to international peace and security, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter;

49. Stresses that the parties to a conflict have an obligation to respect the international status of United Nations operations and to refrain from encouraging or taking actions capable of disrupting or impeding United Nations personnel in the performance of their peace-keeping, peacemaking, or humanitarian functions, in accordance with the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations 8/ and status-of-forces agreements;

50. Urges all host States and parties to a conflict to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of United Nations personnel and to prevent any attempts on the life and health of these personnel;

51. Considers that, in the light of the ever expanding role of peace-keeping operations, it is important that the United Nations, from planning through implementation of each operation, and on an ongoing basis, assess the risks to the safety and security of its units and personnel and take all necessary measures, including the elaboration of appropriate guidelines and procedures, to ensure the highest possible levels of that safety and security;

52. Encourages all regional and subregional organizations to promote the maintenance of peace, security and stability in their respective regions and, where applicable, work in cooperation with the United Nations, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter, contributing to peace-keeping operations there;

53. Emphasizes that any deployment of peace-keeping operations should be accompanied, as appropriate, by an intensification of coordinated political efforts by the States concerned, by regional organizations and by the United Nations itself as part of the political process for a peaceful settlement of the crisis situation or conflict in accordance with Chapters VI and VIII of the Charter;

8/ Resolution 22 A (I).

54. Believes that consideration might be given, over the next few years, to the elaboration of a universally acceptable text for a declaration on United Nations peace-keeping operations, which would include the main organizational and practical aspects involved and would contain recommendations on ways of enhancing the effectiveness of such operations;

55. Takes note of its establishment of an informal working group, open to all Member States, on "An Agenda for Peace";

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56. Recommends that should any of the proposals contained in the present resolution result in budgetary implications for the biennium 1992-1993, such additional costs should be accommodated within the appropriation level approved in General Assembly resolution 46/186 A of 20 December 1991;

57. Decides that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate, continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects;

58. Encourages the Special Committee to consider holding an intersessional meeting to consider the recommendations relating to peace-keeping contained in "An Agenda for Peace" at the earliest opportunity;

59. Requests the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session;

60. Invites Member States to submit any further observations and suggestions on peace-keeping operations to the Secretary-General by 1 March 1993, outlining proposals on specific items in order to allow for more detailed consideration by the Special Committee, with particular emphasis on practical proposals to make these operations more effective;

61. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, within existing resources, a compilation of the above-mentioned observations and suggestions and to submit it to the Special Committee by 30 March 1993;

62. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects".

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COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Senegal, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay:
draft resolution

Protection of peace-keeping personnel

The General Assembly,

Acknowledging the vital importance of the involvement of United Nations personnel in preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peace-keeping, peace-building and humanitarian operations,

Noting with grave concern the growing number of fatalities and injuries among United Nations peace-keeping and other personnel resulting from deliberate hostile actions in areas of deployment,

Bearing in mind the Secretary-General's concern over the safety of peace-keeping personnel expressed in his report entitled "An agenda for peace", 1/

1/ A/47/277-S/24111, chap. VIII.

Recalling its resolution 46/48 of 9 December 1991 and other relevant resolutions, as well as the recommendations contained in the report of the Special Committee on Peace-Keeping Operations, 2/

Having examined the special report of the Special Committee on Peace-Keeping Operations, 3/

Noting relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. Pays tribute to the courage, commitment and idealism of peace-keeping and other United Nations personnel in the field, who often work in difficult and dangerous circumstances;

2. Resolutely condemns any hostile actions against United Nations personnel, including deliberate attacks against United Nations peace-keeping operations, which have resulted in a disturbing number of casualties;

3. Strongly demands that host countries and all parties to a conflict take all measures possible to ensure the safety of peace-keeping and other United Nations personnel;

4. Reminds host countries of their responsibility for the safety of peace-keeping and other United Nations personnel on their territory;

5. Urges the Secretary-General to conclude, if possible at the earliest stage of a peace-keeping operation, a Status of Forces Agreement with the parties concerned, emphasizing their obligations to respect the international status of United Nations operations in accordance with the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations; 4/

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in planning future peace-keeping operations and in making recommendations for their deployment, to give particular attention to adequate protection for peace-keeping and other United Nations personnel;

7. Recommends that in appropriate cases the Security Council might make it clear to the parties when authorizing a peace-keeping operation that it is prepared to take further steps in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations should the purpose of the operation systematically be frustrated by provocative attacks against United Nations personnel;

2/ A/47/253.

3/ A/47/386.

4/ Resolution 22 A (I).

8. Recommends that the Security Council continue, in collaboration with the Force Commander and the Secretariat to collect and, where appropriate, disseminate reliable information about attacks on the safety of peace-keeping and other United Nations personnel;

9. Requests the Special Committee on Peace-Keeping Operations to study other measures to ensure the safety of peace-keeping and other United Nations personnel and report to the General Assembly;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to address the question of the safety of United Nations personnel in his periodic reports on ongoing peace-keeping operations.

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Agenda item 76

QUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION

Draft resolution submitted by Mr. Mansoor Suhail (Pakistan), Acting Chairman, on behalf of the Bureau of the Committee on Information

Draft resolution A

Information in service of humanity

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information, 1/

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on questions relating to information, 2/

Urges that all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 21 (A/47/21).

2/ A/47/462 and Corr.1.

public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethnical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources of and their free access to information, recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process", should:

(a) Cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communication infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communication policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

(b) Ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(c) Provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(d) Enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communication capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communication technology in the developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(e) Aim, in addition to bilateral cooperation, at providing all possible support and assistance to the developing countries and the media, public, private or other, in the developing countries, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communication systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and the media, public, private or other, in developing countries, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communication technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by the developing countries to advanced communication technology available on the open market;

(f) Provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 3/ which should support both public and private media.

3/ See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Records of the General Conference, Twenty-first Session, vol. I, Resolutions, sect. III.4, resolution 4/21.

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QUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION

Draft resolution submitted by Mr. Mansoor Suhail (Pakistan), Acting Chairman, on behalf of the Bureau of the Committee on Information

Draft resolution B

United Nations public information policies and activities

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information, 1/

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on questions relating to information, 2/

Reaffirming the primary role of the General Assembly in elaborating, coordinating and harmonizing United Nations policies and activities in the field of information,

Also reaffirming that the Secretary-General should ensure that the activities of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, as the

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 21 (A/47/21).

2/ A/47/462 and Corr.1

focal point of the public information tasks of the United Nations, are strengthened and improved, keeping in view the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the priority areas defined by the Assembly and the recommendations of the Committee on Information,

1. Decides to consolidate the role of the Committee on Information as its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations relating to the work of the Department of Public Information;

2. Calls upon the Secretary-General, in respect of United Nations public information policies and activities, to implement the following recommendations, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and in this regard should ensure that the Department of Public Information:

(a) Continues to disseminate information about the activities of the United Nations in coordination with the information services of other relevant agencies in accordance with the United Nations medium-term plan, the programme budget and their relevant revisions, pertaining, inter alia, to:

(i) International peace and security;

(ii) Disarmament;

(iii) Peace-keeping operations and peacemaking;

(iv) Decolonization and the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the light of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

(v) The promotion and protection of human rights and in that context the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights;

(vi) The elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;

(vii) The advancement of status of women and their role in society;

(viii) The promotion of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

(ix) Problems of economic and social development, as well as international economic cooperation aimed at resolving external debt problems;

(x) The least developed countries;

(xi) The environment and development;

(xii) The elimination of foreign occupation;

(xiii) The campaign against terrorism in all its forms in line with General Assembly resolution 40/61 of 9 December 1985;

(xiv) International efforts against drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking;

(xv) Crime prevention and criminal justice;

(xvi) Support for the New Agenda of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 and for the tremendous efforts of the African countries aimed at recovery and development, as well as the positive response by the international community to alleviate the serious economic situation prevailing in Africa;

(xvii) International efforts towards the total eradication of apartheid and support for the establishment of a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa and, where necessary, the role of the United Nations in this context;

(xviii) United Nations activities pertaining to the situation in the Middle East and the question of Palestine, in particular, also including current developments in that region and the ongoing peace process;

(b) Provides the necessary level of information support for the activities of the United Nations in situations requiring immediate and special response;

(c) Continues its efforts at promoting an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations system among the peoples of the world and at strengthening the positive image of the system as a whole;

(d) Continues its efforts to ensure timely production and dissemination of its mandated publications, in particular the UN Chronicle, the Yearbook of the United Nations, Development Forum and Africa Recovery and continues to maintain consistent editorial independence and accuracy in reporting all the material that it produces, taking necessary measures to ensure that its output contains adequate, objective and equitable information about issues before the Organization, reflecting divergent opinions where they occur;

(e) Submits a report on continuous and major publications to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session, providing the following details:

(i) The list of publications and their circulation figures;

(ii) Their cost;

(iii) The original language versions and the languages into which the publications were translated;

(iv) Target audiences, including, where possible, the intended end-use of the specific products;

(f) Requests, in this context, the Secretary-General to direct the Publications Board to develop criteria and review all publications and proposals for publications to ensure, inter alia, that each publication fulfils an identifiable mandate and need, is timely, does not duplicate other publications inside or outside the United Nations system, and is cost-effective, and that before the publication is printed, it satisfies the criteria on the basis of which it was authorized, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information;

(g) Continues its briefings, assistance and orientation programmes for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries focused on United Nations-related issues;

(h) Provides, on the basis of its activities, information to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization about new forms of cooperation, at the regional and subregional levels, for the training of media professionals and for the improvement of the information and communication infrastructures of developing countries;

(i) Continues its policies of cooperation with all agencies of the United Nations system, and in particular with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

(j) Continues its policies of cooperation with the news agencies in and of the developing countries, in particular the News Agencies Pool of Non-Aligned Countries;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, in the light of the increasing demands now placed on the Department of Public Information in relation to media coverage of United Nations activities, to provide at the fifteenth session of the Committee on Information an assessment regarding:

(a) Any measures considered appropriate to ensure that the working facilities provided for the media are fully adequate to meet present and future needs and, in this context, to consult with the Bureau of the Committee, spokespersons of the regional groups, the Group of 77 and China, in relation to the implementation of any significant measures in this regard;

(b) The consideration of a greater framework of coordination within the Department of Public Information in relation to the provision of facilities and services for the media, such as the work of the Executive Media Service and the provision of accreditation services;

4. Reaffirms the importance attached by Member States to the role of United Nations information centres in effectively and comprehensively disseminating information about United Nations activities and the optimization of the resources allocated to the Department of Public Information;

5. Calls upon the Secretary-General to submit a detailed and comprehensive report on his plan of integrating United Nations information

centres with other United Nations offices, while maintaining the functional autonomy of the United Nations information centres and emphasizing that they should be fully operational, as provided for in relevant resolutions, to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session for its consideration of the different options available in this regard. In this context, consultations should take place on this matter through the informal mechanism composed of the Bureau of the Committee on Information and the spokespersons of regional groups, the Group of 77 and China, as was established in paragraph 1 (s) of General Assembly resolution 46/73 of 11 December 1991;

6. Reaffirms the role of the General Assembly in relation to the opening of new United Nations information centres and invites the Secretary-General, as well, to make such recommendations as he may judge necessary regarding the establishment and location of new United Nations information centres;

7. Calls upon the Secretary-General to study ways and means of redressing differences in the allocation of resources, in particular the differences of support, in relation to the financing of United Nations information centres in various countries and to report to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session;

8. Notes the substantial contribution by the Government of Poland and requests the Secretary-General to finalize, in consultation with the Polish authorities, arrangements for a United Nations information component in Warsaw;

9. Calls upon the Secretary-General to implement fully its recommendations contained in resolution 46/73 B, including paragraphs 1 (l) and (m), regarding the establishment of a United Nations information centre in Sana'a, Yemen, as well as the reactivation of the United Nations information centre in Tehran and the enhancing of the information centres in Dar es Salaam, Dhaka and Bujumbura;

10. Encourages enhanced cooperation between the Department of Public Information and the University for Peace in Costa Rica as a focal point of promoting United Nations activities and disseminating United Nations information materials;

11. Takes note of the requests by Bulgaria, Gabon and Haiti for information components;

12. Calls upon the Secretary-General to enhance the efficiency of and ensure full programme delivery of all segments currently produced by all regional radio units in the Department of Public Information;

13. Encourages the Department of Public Information to take into account, especially in the area of electronic media production, the various standards and systems used around the world, bearing in mind the need for harmonization and efficiency;

14. Calls upon the Secretary-General, as of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, to make every effort as a matter of particular urgency to create conditions and to make them more conducive to achieving parity by appropriate utilization of existing equipment in the press coverage of meetings in English and French;

15. Decides, as of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, on the publication in the Arabic and Spanish languages, after each annual session of the General Assembly, of the press release containing resolutions and decisions adpoted by the General Assembly and the results of the voting through reallocation of resources from the budget of the Department of Public Information;

16. Invites Member States to submit to the Secretary-General, by 1 January 1993, observations and suggestions on ways and means of furthering the development of communications infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with a view to consolidating recent experience in the field of international cooperation aimed at enabling them to develop their own information and communication capacities, freely and independently, and further requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session;

17. Decides on procedural grounds to refer to the Economic and Social Council for its consideration resolution 26 C/resolution 4.3 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-sixth session and contained in the relevant note by the Secretary-General; 3/

18. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session in 1993 on the results of the implementation of a system-wide information programme for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

19. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session in 1993 and to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session in 1993, on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution, as well as in resolution 46/73;

20. Requests the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session;

21. Decides to include in the provisional agenda for its forty-eighth session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

3/ A/SPC/46/3.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/SPC/47/L.10*
19 November 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session
SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
Agenda item 76

QUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION

Draft resolution submitted by Mr. Mansoor Suhail (Pakistan), Acting Chairman, on behalf of the Bureau of the Committee on Information

Draft resolution B

United Nations public information policies and activities

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information, 1/

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on questions relating to information, 2/

Reaffirming the primary role of the General Assembly in elaborating, coordinating and harmonizing United Nations policies and activities in the field of information,

Also reaffirming that the Secretary-General should ensure that the activities of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, as the

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 21 (A/47/21).

2/ A/47/462 and Corr.1.

focal point of the public information tasks of the United Nations, are strengthened and improved, keeping in view the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the priority areas defined by the Assembly and the recommendations of the Committee on Information,

1. Decides to consolidate the role of the Committee on Information as its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations relating to the work of the Department of Public Information;

2. Calls upon the Secretary-General, in respect of United Nations public information policies and activities, to implement the following recommendations, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and in this regard should ensure that the Department of Public Information:

(a) Continues to disseminate information about the activities of the United Nations in coordination with the information services of other relevant agencies in accordance with the United Nations medium-term plan, the programme budget and their relevant revisions, pertaining, inter alia, to:

(i) International peace and security;

(ii) Disarmament;

(iii) Peace-keeping operations and peacemaking;

(iv) Decolonization and the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the light of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

(v) The promotion and protection of human rights and in that context the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights;

(vi) The elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;

(vii) The advancement of status of women and their role in society;

(viii) The promotion of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

(ix) Problems of economic and social development, as well as international economic cooperation aimed at resolving external debt problems;

(x) The least developed countries;

(xi) The environment and development;

(xii) The elimination of foreign occupation;

(xiii) The campaign against terrorism in all its forms in line with General Assembly resolution 40/61 of 9 December 1985;

(xiv) International efforts against drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking;

(xv) Crime prevention and criminal justice;

(xvi) Support for the New Agenda of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 and for the tremendous efforts of the African countries aimed at recovery and development, as well as the positive response by the international community to alleviate the serious economic situation prevailing in Africa;

(xvii) International efforts towards the total eradication of apartheid and support for the establishment of a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa and, where necessary, the role of the United Nations in this context;

(xviii) United Nations activities pertaining to the situation in the Middle East and the question of Palestine, in particular, also including current developments in that region and the ongoing peace process;

(b) Provides the necessary level of information support for the activities of the United Nations in situations requiring immediate and special response;

(c) Continues its efforts at promoting an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations system among the peoples of the world and at strengthening the positive image of the system as a whole;

(d) Continues its efforts to ensure timely production and dissemination of its mandated publications, in particular the UN Chronicle, the Yearbook of the United Nations, Development Forum and Africa Recovery and continues to maintain consistent editorial independence and accuracy in reporting all the material that it produces, taking necessary measures to ensure that its output contains adequate, objective and equitable information about issues before the Organization, reflecting divergent opinions where they occur;

(e) Submits a report on continuous and major publications to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session, providing the following details:

(i) The list of publications and their circulation figures;

(ii) Their cost;

(iii) The original language versions and the languages into which the publications were translated;

(iv) Target audiences, including, where possible, the intended end-use of the specific products;

(f) Continues its briefings, assistance and orientation programmes for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries focused on United Nations-related issues;

(g) Provides, on the basis of its activities, information to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization about new forms of cooperation, at the regional and subregional levels, for the training of media professionals and for the improvement of the information and communication infrastructures of developing countries;

(h) Continues its policies of cooperation with all agencies of the United Nations system, and in particular with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

(i) Continues its policies of cooperation with the news agencies in and of the developing countries, in particular the News Agencies Pool of Non-Aligned Countries;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, in the light of the increasing demands now placed on the Department of Public Information in relation to media coverage of United Nations activities, to provide at the fifteenth session of the Committee on Information an assessment regarding:

(a) Any measures considered appropriate to ensure that the working facilities provided for the media are fully adequate to meet present and future needs and, in this context, to consult with the Bureau of the Committee, spokespersons of the regional groups, the Group of 77 and China, in relation to the implementation of any significant measures in this regard;

(b) The consideration of a greater framework of coordination within the Department of Public Information in relation to the provision of facilities and services for the media, such as the work of the Executive Media Service and the provision of accreditation services;

4. Requests, in this context, the Secretary-General to direct the Publications Board to develop criteria and review all publications and proposals for publications to ensure, inter alia, that each publication fulfils an identifiable mandate and need, is timely, does not duplicate other publications inside or outside the United Nations system, and is cost-effective, and that before the publication is printed, it satisfies the criteria on the basis of which it was authorized, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information;

5. Reaffirms the importance attached by Member States to the role of United Nations information centres in effectively and comprehensively disseminating information about United Nations activities and the optimization of the resources allocated to the Department of Public Information;

6. Calls upon the Secretary-General to submit a detailed and comprehensive report on his plan of integrating United Nations information

centres with other United Nations offices, while maintaining the functional autonomy of the United Nations information centres and emphasizing that they should be fully operational, as provided for in relevant resolutions, to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session for its consideration of the different options available in this regard. In this context, consultations should take place on this matter through the informal mechanism composed of the Bureau of the Committee on Information and the spokespersons of regional groups, the Group of 77 and China, as was established in paragraph 1 (s) of General Assembly resolution 46/73 of 11 December 1991;

7. Reaffirms the role of the General Assembly in relation to the opening of new United Nations information centres and invites the Secretary-General, as well, to make such recommendations as he may judge necessary regarding the establishment and location of new United Nations information centres;

8. Calls upon the Secretary-General to study ways and means of redressing differences in the allocation of resources, in particular the differences of support, in relation to the financing of United Nations information centres in various countries and to report to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session;

9. Notes the substantial contribution by the Government of Poland and requests the Secretary-General to finalize, in consultation with the Polish authorities, arrangements for a United Nations information component in Warsaw;

10. Calls upon the Secretary-General to implement fully its recommendations contained in resolution 46/73 B, including paragraphs 1 (l) and (m), regarding the establishment of a United Nations information centre in Sana'a, Yemen, as well as the reactivation of the United Nations information centre in Tehran and the enhancing of the information centres in Dar es Salaam, Dhaka and Bujumbura;

11. Encourages enhanced cooperation between the Department of Public Information and the University for Peace in Costa Rica as a focal point of promoting United Nations activities and disseminating United Nations information materials;

12. Takes note of the requests by Bulgaria, Gabon and Haiti for information components;

13. Calls upon the Secretary-General to enhance the efficiency of and ensure full programme delivery of all segments currently produced by all regional radio units in the Department of Public Information;

14. Encourages the Department of Public Information to take into account, especially in the area of electronic media production, the various standards and systems used around the world, bearing in mind the need for harmonization and efficiency;

15. Calls upon the Secretary-General, as of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, to make every effort as a matter of particular urgency to create conditions and to make them more conducive to achieving parity by appropriate utilization of existing equipment in the press coverage of meetings in English and French;

16. Decides, as of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, on the publication in the Arabic and Spanish languages, after each annual session of the General Assembly, of the press release containing resolutions and decisions adpoted by the General Assembly and the results of the voting through reallocation of resources from the budget of the Department of Public Information;

17. Invites Member States to submit to the Secretary-General, by 1 January 1993, observations and suggestions on ways and means of furthering the development of communications infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with a view to consolidating recent experience in the field of international cooperation aimed at enabling them to develop their own information and communication capacities, freely and independently, and further requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session;

18. Decides on procedural grounds to refer to the Economic and Social Council for its consideration resolution 26 C/resolution 4.3 adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-sixth session and contained in the relevant note by the Secretary-General; 3/

19. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session in 1993 on the results of the implementation of a system-wide information programme for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

20. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session in 1993 and to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session in 1993, on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution, as well as in resolution 46/73;

21. Requests the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session;

22. Decides to include in the provisional agenda for its forty-eighth session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

3/ A/SPC/46/3.

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

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A/SPC/47/L.11
16 November 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session
SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
Agenda items 75 and 104

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/SPC/47/L.7

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 3, 4, 6-8, 10, 23, 25, 26, 28, 30-41, 51, 54, 56 and 61 of draft resolution A/SPC/47/L.7, the General Assembly would:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of improving the formulation of his questionnaire of 21 May 1990, and to recirculate the questionnaire on a regular basis;

(b) Encourage the Secretary-General to consider circulating a separate questionnaire on civil police and civilian experts;

(c) Recommend that the guidelines in the questionnaire be developed and used subsequently in the "Notes for Guidance";

(d) Call upon the Secretariat to consult with and assist Member States in completing the questionnaires;

(e) Request the Secretary-General to promote, based on the questionnaires, the establishment on a voluntary basis among Member States of a pool of resources, including military units, military observers, civil police, key staff personnel and humanitarian matériel, that might be made readily available to United Nations peace-keeping operations subject to national approval;

(f) Encourage the Secretariat and those Member States which have indicated willingness to provide forces or capabilities to the United Nations for peace-keeping operations on short notice to enter into direct dialogue;

(g) Request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly as soon as possible on the subject of augmenting the strength and capability of military and civilian staff dealing with peace-keeping matters in the Secretariat; and to consider the establishment in the Secretariat of an enhanced peace-keeping planning staff and an operations centre;

(h) Invite the Secretary-General to consider the necessary strengthening and reform of the Secretariat units dealing with peace-keeping operations;

(i) Invite the Secretary-General to consider the establishment of a unified, integrated structure within the Department of Peace-keeping Operations; and to consider whether relevant parts of the Field Operations Division should be transferred to the Department;

(j) Request the Secretariat to consider the utility of training guidelines for civilian specialized units, including civilian police;

(k) Request the Secretary-General to issue a regularly updated list of national peace-keeping training and similar activities based upon national submission;

(l) Invite the Secretary-General to institute proper arrangements and procedures for providing additional personnel on a short-term basis;

(m) Reiterate its invitation to the Secretary-General to consider identifying a focal point for contacts by Member States seeking information on all facets of ongoing and planned peace-keeping operations;

(n) Invite the Secretary-General to review, with a view to streamlining procedures and enhancing effectiveness, the applicable United Nations financial and administrative regulations concerning peace-keeping operations;

(o) Invite the Secretary-General to consider means whereby Special Representatives/Force Commanders and other key personnel are identified at the earliest possible time;

(p) Recommend that the Secretary-General conduct a study on how to prevent duplication of responsibilities of civilian and military staff personnel in the field;

(q) Invite the Secretary-General immediately to envisage the adoption of all necessary arrangements to define logistics doctrine and standard operational procedures combining civilian and military aspects;

(r) Encourage the Secretary-General to invite Member States to provide qualified military and civilian personnel to assist the Secretariat in the planning and management of peace-keeping operations;

(s) Request the Secretary-General to report periodically on the performance of all peace-keeping operations;

(t) Request the Secretary-General to consider establishing a training programme for key staff personnel of peace-keeping operations with a view to creating a pool of trained personnel with knowledge of the United Nations system and its working procedures;

(u) Request the Secretariat immediately to make all necessary arrangements for the reissue of The Blue Helmets in 1995;

(v) Recommend that the Secretariat continue the existing practice of informal consultations with contributing States more directly interested, as appropriate, and that, especially for particularly large or complex operations, these informal consultations be held on a more frequent and regular basis, with a view to providing effective follow-up and support to the operation from its initial stage to its termination;

(w) Consider that, in the light of the ever expanding role of peace-keeping operations, it is important that the United Nations, from planning through implementation of each operation, and on an ongoing basis, assess the risks to the safety and security of its units and personnel and take all necessary measures, including the elaboration of appropriate guidelines and procedures, to ensure the highest possible levels of that safety and security;

(x) Believe that consideration might be given, over the next few years, to the elaboration of a universally acceptable text for a declaration on United Nations peace-keeping operations, which would include the main organizational and practical aspects involved and would contain recommendations on ways of enhancing the effectiveness of such operations;

(y) Recommend that, should any of the proposals contained in the present resolution result in budgetary implications for the biennium 1992-1993, such additional costs should be accommodated within the appropriation level approved in General Assembly resolution 46/186 A of 20 December 1991;

(z) Request the Secretary-General to prepare, within existing resources, a compilation of observations and suggestions on peace-keeping operations submitted by Member States and to submit it to the Special Political Committee by 30 March 1993.

B. Relationship of requests to the approved programme of work

2. The requests contained in paragraph 1 (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), (l), (m), (o), (p), (q), (r), (s), (v) (w), (x) and (z) above are related to subprogramme 2 (Peace-keeping operations) of programme 1 (Good Offices and peacemaking, peace-keeping, research and the collection of information) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 1/ and to subprogramme 1 (Peace-keeping operation) under section 2 (Good offices, peacemaking; peace-keeping; research and the collection of information) of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 2/

3. The request contained in paragraph 1 (t) above relates to subprogramme 3, Staff administration and training of programme 41, Human resources management, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 1/ and to activities initially programmed under subprogramme 3, Staff administration and training, of section 33, Office of Human Resources Management, of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 2/

4. The request contained in paragraph 1 (n) above relates to subprogrammes 1, Financial management and control systems, and 6, Financial services, relating to peace-keeping matters, initially programmed under section 33C Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance, of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

5. The request contained in paragraph 1 (u) above relates to subprogramme 1, Promotional services, of programme 38 Public information, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 1/ and to subprogramme 1, Promotional services, of section 31, Public information, of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. 2/

C. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

6. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would respond appropriately to the requests and suggestions outlined in paragraph 1 above.

D. Modifications required in the programme of work for 1992-1993

7. With respect to activities responding to requests under subparagraphs 1 (a) through (m), (o) through (s), (v) through (x) and (z), these relate to activities 1 and 2 programmed under subprogramme 1, Peace-keeping operations, of section 2, Good offices and peacemaking, peace-keeping, research and the collection of information, of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. The activity responding to the request under subparagraph 1 (t) relates to activity 1 of part (b), Training, of subprogramme 3, Staff administration and training, initially programmed under section 33B, Office of Human Resources Management. The activity responding to the request under

subparagraph 1 (n) above relates to activity 2 of subprogramme 1, Financial management and control systems, and activity 2 of subprogramme 6, Financial services relating to peace-keeping matters, originally programmed under section 33C, Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance. The activity responding to the request in subparagraph 1 (u) would not be implemented during 1992-1993. Consequently, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/SPC/47/1.7, no programmatic modification would be required in the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

8. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/SPC/47/L.7, most of the activities to be undertaken by the Secretary-General would involve review and consideration of new activities and policy directions in the organization, management and development of the peace-keeping operations and capabilities of the Organization. Such mandates would involve no additional requirements during 1993. Likewise, requests to continue activities already programmed and being undertaken would involve no additional requirements during 1993. Requests for reports, as outlined in subparagraphs 1 (g), (k) and (z), would also be accommodated from within existing resources in 1992-1993. It should be noted, however, that the Secretary-General cannot prejudge the contents of the report that he is requested to prepare, as outlined in paragraph 1 (g) above.

9. As regards the requests outlined in subparagraphs 1 (t) and (u) above, the implications of these requests will be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

F. Summary

10. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/SPC/47/L.7, no additional appropriations would be required at this stage under sections 2, 31 or 41.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. I, as amended by A/47/6.

2/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vols. I and II, and Add.1.

UNITED NATIONS

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General Assembly

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A/SPC/47/L.12
19 November 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Forty-seventh session
SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
Agenda item 105

PROGRAMME PLANNING

Letter dated 18 November 1992 from the Chairman of the Special Political Committee addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to request that the attached letter be forwarded to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee.

(Signed) Hamadi KHOUINI
Chairman
Special Political Committee

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181192

/...

Annex

[Original: French]

LETTER DATED 18 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

I have the honour to refer to item 105 on the agenda of the General Assembly, entitled "Programme planning", and to recall that the Special Political Committee has been allocated programmes 1, 2, 4 to 6, 8, 35, 36 and 38 under that item, on which the Committee has been requested to submit its views and recommendations, if any, to the Fifth Committee before 20 November 1992.

I wish to inform you that this matter was brought to the attention of the Special Political Committee at its 3rd meeting, on 20 October 1992, with a request that any members of the Committee wishing to express their views should do so in writing by 17 November 1992. Subsequently, in order to ensure the widest possible dissemination of the responsibility entrusted to the Committee under item 105, the Chairman sent a note dated 20 October 1992 to the heads of delegations to the Special Political Committee bringing to their attention his remarks on this subject at the above-mentioned meeting, with a request that the content of those remarks be communicated to all the delegates who would be attending the Special Political Committee during its consideration of the various items on its agenda.

I have the honour to transmit to you, for the attention of the Fifth Committee, six communications which I have received in that connection.

(Signed) Hamadi KHOUINI
Chairman
Special Political Committee

Appendix I

[Original: English]

NOTE VERBALE DATED 13 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF BRAZIL TO THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE AT THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

The head of the delegation of Brazil to the Special Political Committee presents his compliments to the Chairman of the Special Political Committee and has the honour to refer to the latter's circular note SCPC/1992-1.

In reply, the head of the Brazilian delegation to the Special Political Committee has the honour to report that the delegation of Brazil supports the conclusions and recommendations agreed upon by consensus at the thirty-second session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as contained in document A/47/16.

Appendix II

[Original: English]

NOTE VERBALE DATED 14 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE HEAD OF THE CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE AT THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

The Deputy Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations, head of the Chinese delegation to the Special Political Committee at the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, presents his compliments to the Chairman of the Special Political Committee, and with reference to the latter's note (SCPC/1992-1) dated 20 October 1992, has the honour to forward herewith the views and recommendations of the Chinese delegation which have been requested by the Chairman in his note concerning the document A/47/6 (Prog. 4) under the item entitled "Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997".

Resolution 46/137, adopted on 17 December 1991 by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session after the discussion in the Third Committee, endorsed the Secretary-General's view that he should designate a senior official in the Offices of the Secretary-General to act as focal point to assist the Secretary-General to coordinate and consider requests for electoral verification and undertake the tasks concerning the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections, and also requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the resolution, under the item entitled "Human rights questions". In view of the above, the Chinese delegation holds that the subprogramme of "Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections" is irrelevant to major programme I, entitled "Maintenance of peace and security, disarmament and decolonization", in the document entitled "Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997", and thus suggests that it should be deleted. The Chinese delegation is of the view that according to resolution 46/137 the activities of the United Nations mentioned above should be considered under major programme VII, entitled "Human rights, fundamental freedoms and humanitarian affairs".

Appendix III

[Original: Spanish]

NOTE VERBALE DATED 17 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF COLOMBIA TO THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE AT THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

The Head of the delegation of Colombia to the Special Political Committee at the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly presents his compliments to the Chairman of the Special Political Committee and, with reference to his letter of 20 October 1992 concerning item 105 of the agenda of the General Assembly, entitled "Programme planning", wishes to inform him that the position of the Government of Colombia in this connection was duly reflected in the statement of Colombia before the Special Political Committee on 12 November 1992 regarding item 75, "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects".

For your information, I take the liberty to quote the corresponding statement:

> "In my delegation's opinion, subprogramme 4 of programme 4 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 entitled 'Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of genuine and periodic elections' is not within the purview of the Special Political Committee. We therefore request you to inform the Chairman of the Fifth Committee accordingly on this subject."

My Government hopes that these comments will be taken into account in any revisions that may be introduced.

Appendix IV

[Original: Spanish]

NOTE VERBALE DATED 17 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CUBA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

I have the honour to inform you of receipt of your letter of 20 October, reference SCPC/1992-2, requesting our views on the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for submission to the Fifth Committee.

I am pleased to inform you of the following opinions of the delegation of Cuba.

Programme 1

The Cuban delegation's principal difficulty with the Secretariat's proposed revisions to programme 1 of the medium-term plan involve the arbitrary inclusion of the term "preventive diplomacy" in the title of the programme itself, the structure and priorities of the subprogrammes, the title of subprogramme 1 and the paragraphs describing subprogramme 1.

It should be noted that, by inserting a sentence, an attempt is made in paragraph 1.10 of subprogramme 1 to use the document "An Agenda for Peace" (A/47/277-S/24111) as the legislative basis for the inclusion of the aforementioned concept. The document "An Agenda for Peace" is no more than a proposal by the Secretary-General. Its contents, including the concept of "preventive diplomacy", have no legal value and consequently cannot be used as a legislative basis until such time as they are adopted by the General Assembly or another appropriate body.

The new paragraph proposed as a replacement for paragraph 1.19 of subprogramme 3 contains some questionable elements. None of the references to "threats to peace", "conflict" or "disputes" specifies that these phenomena are international in nature. The implication is that internal conflicts or disputes, which, as such, fall within the sole jurisdiction of the States, could also be subject to United Nations research and information gathering mechanisms. Paragraph 1.21, subparagraph (b), of the same subprogramme, which lists the functions of the research and information gathering mechanisms of the Secretariat's new Department of Political Affairs, imply the same by referring only to "developments related to peace and security" without describing them as international.

Programme 2

The main problem with the revisions to this programme is their focus, which is currently to strengthen the role of the Security Council by changing the name of the overall programme. At the same time, the title would not be in keeping with the contents of the single subprogramme that would be left in the programme if the proposal in the document to delete subprogramme 2 is approved. Furthermore, at least for programme-related purposes, this would make the items on peace and security considered in the First Committee and other bodies subordinate in nature to the Security Council, since they would - in our opinion, inappropriately - be lumped together under the programme's new title, Security Council affairs.

There is no need to comment on the reference in the text to "preventive diplomacy" since it is merely a reference to the title of programme 1, which we have already discussed.

Programme 4

The revisions to this programme are, perhaps, among the most important and far-reaching among the programmes we are considering, and they belie the oft-repeated assertion in paragraph 3 of the text that "the revisions do not reflect a fundamental change in the mandate, orientation and strategy of the programme". The proposed changes require careful analysis:

1. We question the addition to this programme, which is entitled "Special political questions, trusteeship and decolonization", of a reference to so-called "periodic and genuine elections". This topic has been inserted beginning in the general orientation of the programme, in paragraph 4.1, and continuing throughout the programme, including the addition of a new subprogramme for that purpose.

2. In the addition referred to in paragraph 4.1, General Assembly resolution 46/137 is cited as the mandate for activities for "enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections". There is no mention whatsoever of the resolution submitted by Cuba and adopted at that same session concerning the principles that should be followed in conducting such activities.

3. In the structure and priorities of the programme, mention is made once again of "preventive diplomacy" as a concept approved by the legislative organs, which is not the case.

4. It is striking that "periodic and genuine elections" should be placed on the same level as other subjects that have historically been of supreme importance in the context of the United Nations, such as special political questions (by which we understand peace-keeping operations), regional cooperation in the field of security and self-determination, and decolonization. The fact that the elections item has its own subprogramme confirms its elevation to a position of presumed equality.

5. With respect to subprogramme 1, the proposed new paragraph 4.23 on the implementation of Security Council resolution 681 (1990) does not specify the measures to be adopted by the Department of Political Affairs in order to comply with the contents of that resolution. Of course, the resolution appears to have become a dead letter in the Security Council, even though the incidents that gave rise to it are being repeated with ever-increasing regularity and violence, under the pretext that negotiations are going on in Washington on the Arab-Israeli conflict. This paragraph should be contrasted with the paragraph 4.22 above it, also newly drafted, which provides a specific outline.

6. With regard to the proposed new subprogramme 2, which covers topics relating to regional cooperation formerly included under subprogramme 1, the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan are cast in such a way as to orient the subprogramme in the direction indicated in the document "An Agenda for Peace". Thus, in practice, adopting these revisions would constitute implicit acceptance of the relevant section of that document.

7. It is important to note that, according to the text under consideration, the mandate for this new subprogramme 2 derives from, inter alia, Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. This can be interpreted to mean that the regional organizations would have jurisdiction over the use of the measures of force provided for in that Chapter, with all the consequent implications. Thus "preventive diplomacy", mentioned in paragraph 4.28 of this proposed new subprogramme, is also placed under Chapter VII of the Charter, which contradicts the arguments put forward by its defenders - in particular the Secretary-General himself in the document "An Agenda for Peace" - for its use as a mechanism that would not violate the sovereignty of the States or imply interference in their internal affairs. There is no legislative mandate whatsoever for including the concept in paragraph 4.28.

8. The new subprogramme 4 that has been added refers specifically to "enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections". The same concerns indicated in paragraph 1 apply here. This subject has nothing to do with the general sense of the programme. Moreover, as my delegation indicated in the debate, this subject has nothing to do with the work of the Special Political Committee.

9. The legislative mandate of the subprogramme now includes resolution 46/137, and omits the approved text which was originally submitted by Cuba.

10. Paragraph 4.39, which it is proposed to add under the new subprogramme 4, is unacceptable as to form. The statements made in the paragraph are such as to prejudge the content of the programme, since it states that the functions of the Electoral Assistance Unit would be to "assist Member States in the holding and verification of elections as a mechanism to promote peace-making, further the enhancement of human rights and provide development assistance". Everything appears to indicate that such a phrasing subordinates and qualifies the development assistance referred to.

11. If the measures to be taken by the Secretariat, as stated in paragraph 4.40 of the new subprogramme, are analysed, it can easily be seen that not only are they excessive, but they create an imbalance in the programme, turning this new activity into the most important of the whole programme.

Programme 6

1. In the proposed revisions, all reference to a legislative basis has been removed since they state that the situation in South Africa constitutes a threat to international peace and security, which in practice reduces the possibility that the matter can be examined in the Security Council as circumstances may require.

2. In the sentence proposed to replace clause (a) of paragraph 6.25, under subprogramme 2 (which, following the present modifications, would appear as paragraph 6.36), there is a reference to "Promoting support for a negotiated settlement of the conflict in South Africa as outlined in the United Nations Declaration on Apartheid and the consensus resolutions". This reference would be unacceptable and would constitute a negative precedent, since all resolutions, regardless of how they are approved, constitute the legislative authority for the medium-term plan.

Programme 38

1. The new paragraph 38.3 which it is proposed to add to the Programme has the same flaw as the one we have already mentioned, since there is never any mention of the fact that the potential threats to peace and security on which timely and comprehensive information should be delivered refer to "threats to international peace and security", raising the risk that it could be misinterpreted and lead to decisions or actions that would infringe the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States.

2. With regard to clause (h) which it is proposed to add to the new paragraph 38.7, the same problem exists as that mentioned above, and this is also the case for the new paragraph 38.17 of subprogramme 2.

These are the thoughts of Cuba on the programmes which fall within the terms of reference of the Special Political Committee.

(Signed) Alcibiades Hidalgo BASULTO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Cuba
to the United Nations

Appendix V

[Original: English]

NOTE VERBALE DATED 16 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Agenda item 105: Programme planning

At the third meeting of the Special Political Committee, on 20 October, you drew attention to the fact that the General Assembly had allocated to the Committee, in addition to the usual items on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), peace-keeping, Israeli practices in the occupied territories, science and peace, effects of atomic radiation, question of the composition of the relevant organs of the United Nations, International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, and questions relating to information, that part of item 105, Programme planning, which related to items 1, 2, 4 to 6, 8, 35, 36 and 38 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992 to 1997. The European Community and its member States have considered these questions and their views are set forth below.

We have studied the documents drawn up by the secretariat on each of the nine programmes (A/47/6 (Prog. 1), A/47/6 (Prog. 2), A/47/6 (Prog. 4), A/47/6 (Prog. 5), A/47/6 (Prog. 6), A/47/6 (Prog. 8), A/47/6 (Prog. 35), A/47/6 (Prog. 36) and A/47/6 (Prog. 38)) and have reviewed the relevant records of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, which considered these documents at its resumed thirty-second session, from 31 August to 18 September 1992.

The European Community and its member States believe that it would be appropriate for the Special Political Committee to decide to send a single, consensus message to the Fifth Committee in the following terms:

> "The Special Political Committee supports the proposals of the Secretariat regarding proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 as modified by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its resumed thirty-second session."

(Signed) I. C. CLIFF
First Secretary

Appendix VI

[Original: English]

LETTER DATED 17 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE AT THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

In response to your request for comments and recommendations regarding the programme planning items allocated to the Special Political Committee by the Fifth Committee, I am pleased to submit the following.

On 13 October my delegation submitted the attached letter to the Chairman of the Third Committee, Mr. Florian Krenkel. The submission was in response to a request for comments on programme planning items, including subprogramme 4 of programme 4, relevant to Third Committee issues. My delegation understood, and was subsequently advised by the secretariat, that the referenced subprogramme was appropriately addressed by the Third Committee. Accordingly, I refer you to the prior submission in connection with your request for comments on programme 4.

In addition to the points made in the attached letter (see enclosure), my delegation believes that subprogramme 4 of programme 4, which describes the Electoral Assistance Unit, properly belongs in programme 4, since electoral verification is clearly a mechanism to promote peacemaking (para. 4.39 of proposed revisions to the medium-term plan, A/47/6 (Prog. 4)). I further believe General Assembly resolution 46/137 is the sole mandate for this subprogramme. My delegation opposes the naming of any other resolution as pertinent to the mandate (para. 4.37).

The United States delegation supports the adoption of the description of programme 4, subprogramme 4, as contained in A/47/6 (Prog. 4).

(Signed) Robert T. GREY
Political Counsellor
Alternate Representative to the
Special Political Committee

Enclosure

LETTER DATED 13 OCTOBER 1992 FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE THIRD COMMITTEE AT THE FORTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

Rather than take up valuable Committee time with debate, you have wisely asked Third Committee delegations to comment in writing through you on aspects of the United Nations medium-term plan that are relevant to Third Committee issues. Here follow the views of the United States Government on one subprogramme of that plan.

The United States Government considers the subprogramme on electoral assistance (programme 4, subprogramme 4) to be an important new initiative for the United Nations. In the view of my Government, the description of the electoral assistance programme contained in the draft programme as presented to the Committee for Programme and Coordination (A/47/6 (Prog. 4)) is sound and corresponds with the mandate of General Assembly resolution 46/137. Therefore, my Government supports the adoption of subprogramme 4 of programme 4 as drafted, or with only minor changes, which would need to be negotiated in the Fifth Committee. My delegation will insist on the retention of the name of the Electoral Assistance Unit in the document, since we understand it is well within the prerogative of the Secretary-General to establish and name this unit, as he has done in response to 46/137.

We have no objection to the minor changes proposed in document E/AC.51/1992/L.#/Add.# of 11 September 1992,* under the heading "Conclusions and recommendations".

(Signed) Edward MARKS
Minister Counsellor
United States Representative
to the Third Committee

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* An informal paper.

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Forty-seventh session
SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
Agenda items 76 and 104

QUESTIONS RELATING TO INFORMATION

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

Programme budget implications of draft resolution B, entitled "United Nations public information policies and activities"

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. At its 9th meeting, on 16 April 1992, the Committee on Information decided by consensus to recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "United Nations public information policies and activities", contained in document A/AC.198/192/L.2. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in document A/AC.198/192/L.3. That draft resolution has now been submitted for consideration by the Special Political Committee in document A/SPC/47/L.10.

A. Request contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 15 and 16 of draft resolution B, entitled "United Nations public information policies and activities", contained in document A/SPC/47/L.10, the General Assembly would:

A. Call upon the Secretary-General, in respect of United Nations public information policies and activities, to implement the following recommendations, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions, and in this regard should ensure that the Department of Public Information:

(a) Continues to disseminate information about the activities of the United Nations in coordination with the information services of other relevant agencies in accordance with the United Nations medium-term plan, the programme budget and their relevant revisions, pertaining, inter alia to:

(i) International peace and security;

(ii) Disarmament;

(iii) Peace-keeping operations and peacemaking;

(iv) Decolonization and the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the light of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

(v) The promotion and protection of human rights and in that context the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights;

(vi) The elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;

(vii) The advancement of the status of women and their role in society;

(viii) The promotion of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

(ix) Problems of economic and social development, as well as international economic cooperation aimed at resolving external debt problems;

(x) The least developed countries;

(xi) The environment and development;

(xii) The elimination of foreign occupation;

(xiii) The campaign against terrorism in all its forms in line with General Assembly resolution 40/61 of 9 December 1985;

(xiv) International efforts against drug abuse and illicit drug trafficking;

(xv) Crime prevention and criminal justice;

(xvi) Support for the New Agenda of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 and for the tremendous efforts of the African countries aimed at recovery and development, as well as the positive response by the international community to alleviate the serious economic situation prevailing in Africa;

(xvii) International efforts towards the total eradication of apartheid and support for the establishment of a united, non-racial and democratic South Africa and, where necessary, the role of the United Nations in this context;

(xviii) United Nations activities pertaining to the situation in the Middle East and the question of Palestine, in particular, also including current developments in that region and the ongoing peace process;

(b) Provides the necessary level of information support for the activities of the United Nations in situations requiring immediate and special response;

(c) Continues its efforts at promoting an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations system among the peoples of the world and at strengthening the positive image of the system as a whole;

(d) Continues its efforts to ensure timely production and dissemination of its mandated publications, in particular the UN Chronicle, the Yearbook of the United Nations, Development Forum and Africa Recovery and continues to maintain consistent editorial independence and accuracy in reporting all the material that it produces, taking necessary measures to ensure that its output contains adequate, objective and equitable information about issues before the Organization, reflecting divergent opinions where they occur;

(e) Submits a report on continuous and major publications to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session, providing the following details:

(i) The list of publications and their circulation figures;

(ii) Their cost;

(iii) The original language versions and the languages into which the publications were translated;

(iv) Target audiences, including, where possible, the intended end-use of the specific products;

(f) Continues its briefings, assistance and orientation programmes for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries focused on United Nations-related issues;

(g) Provides, on the basis of its activities, information to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) about new forms of cooperation, at the regional and subregional levels, for the training of media professionals and for the improvement of the information and communication infrastructures of developing countries;

(h) Continues its policies of cooperation with all agencies of the United Nations system, and in particular with UNESCO;

(i) Continues its policies of cooperation with the news agencies in and of the developing countries, in particular the News Agencies Pool of Non-Aligned Countries;

B. Request the Secretary-General, in the light of the increasing demands now placed on the Department of Public Information in relation to media coverage of United Nations activities, to provide at the fifteenth session of the Committee on Information an assessment regarding:

(a) Any measures considered appropriate to ensure that the working facilities provided for the media are fully adequate to meet present and future needs and, in this context, to consult with the Bureau of the Committee, spokespersons of the regional groups, the Group of 77 and China, in relation to the implementation of any significant measures in this regard;

(b) The consideration of a greater framework of coordination within the Department of Public Information in relation to the provision of facilities and services for the media, such as the work of the Executive Media Service and the provision of accreditation services;

C. Request, in this context, the Secretary-General to direct the Publications Board to develop criteria and review all publications and proposals for publications to ensure, inter alia, that each publication fulfils an identifiable mandate and need, is timely, does not duplicate other publications inside or outside the United Nations system, and is cost-effective, and that before the publication is printed, it satisfies the criteria on the basis of which it was authorized, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information;

D. Call upon the Secretary-General to submit a detailed and comprehensive report on his plan of integrating United Nations information centres with other United Nations offices, while maintaining the functional autonomy of the United Nations information centres and emphasizing that they should be fully operational, as provided for in relevant resolutions, to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session for its consideration of the different options available in this regard. In this context, consultations should take place on this matter through the informal mechanism composed of the Bureau of the Committee on Information and the spokespersons of regional groups, the Group of 77 and China, as was established in paragraph 1 (s) of General Assembly resolution 46/73 of 11 December 1991;

E. Call upon the Secretary-General to study ways and means of redressing differences in the allocation of resources, in particular the differences of support, in relation to the financing of United Nations information centres in various countries and to report to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session;

F. Request the Secretary-General to finalize, in consultation with the Polish authorities, arrangements for a United Nations information component in Warsaw;

G. Call upon the Secretary-General to implement fully its recommendations contained in resolution 46/73 B of 11 December 1991, including paragraphs 1 (l) and (m), regarding the establishment of a United Nations information centre in Sana'a, Yemen, as well as the reactivation of the United Nations information centre in Tehran and the enhancing of the information centres in Dar es Salaam, Dhaka and Bujumbura;

H. Call upon the Secretary-General, as of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, to make every effort as a matter of particular urgency to create conditions and to make them more conducive to achieving parity by appropriate utilization of existing equipment in the press coverage of meetings in English and French;

I. Decide, as of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, on the publication in the Arabic and Spanish languages, after each of its annual sessions, of the press release containing the resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly and the results of the voting through reallocation of resources from the budget of the Department of Public Information.

B. Activities by which the request would be implemented

3. Should the draft resolution be adopted by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General would:

(a) Ensure that the Department of Public Information continues to disseminate information about the activities of the United Nations in coordination with the information services of other relevant agencies in accordance with the medium-term plan and the programme budget;

(b) Provide an assessment to the Committee on Information at its fifteenth session on the working facilities provided to the media;

(c) Submit a report to the fifteenth session of the Committee on Information on the plan for integrating United Nations information centres with other United Nations offices;

(d) Study ways and means for redressing imbalances in the allocation of resources between information centres around the world;

(e) Continue consultations with the Government of Poland with a view to establishing a United Nations component in Warsaw;

(f) Take appropriate measures to implement General Assembly resolution 46/73;

(g) Commence, on a phased basis, provision in conference rooms at Headquarters of the necessary furniture and equipment with a view to achieving parity in the press coverage of meetings in English and French;

(h) Publish the press release, in the Arabic and Spanish languages, of the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, including the results of the voting.

4. With respect to the request contained in subparagraph 2.A(d) above, the Department of Public Information would continue its efforts to ensure timely production and editorial independence of its mandated publications. With regard to Development Forum, however, the financial situation has finally deteriorated to the critical point where maintaining the status quo ante is no longer possible. In spite of stringent economy measures, the publication has continued to operate in deficit ($72,700 in 1992 and $324,100 in 1991), and at current levels of income and expenditure, cash reserves would be completely depleted in 1993. Accordingly, as indicated in the report on questions relating to information (A/47/462 and Corr.1) and as conveyed to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in view of its critical financial situation the Secretary-General has no option but to cease the production of the general edition by 31 December 1992. So long as it continues to be financially viable, however, production of the business edition will continue.

C. Additional requirements at full cost

5. The activities mentioned in paragraphs 2.A and 2.G above reflect the activities originally programmed under section 31 of the 1992-1993 programme budget, and no additional resources would be required for their implementation.

6. With regard to the reports and assessments referred to in paragraphs 2.B, 2.D and 2.E above, it is anticipated that no additional appropriations would be required for their production, as they relate to the regular programme of activities of the Programme Evaluation and Communications Research Unit of the Department of Public Information.

7. With regard to the request referred to in paragraph 2.F above, the Department of Public Information will continue its consultations with the Government of Poland, in particular regarding the availability of suitable rent-free premises. The extent of practical support to be provided by the Government of Poland will be taken into account in the preparation of the proposed programme budget of the biennium 1994-1995.

8. With respect to the request contained in subparagraph 2.H above regarding the equal provision of English and French press coverage in the conference rooms, it is the intention of the Secretary-General to provide the necessary equipment in the various conference rooms in a phased manner, as follows:

(a) The necessary furniture and equipment has already been installed in 1992 in Conference Rooms 1 and 3;

(b) The necessary furniture and equipment will be installed in the Trusteeship Council Chamber in 1993;

(c) Specific proposals for furniture and equipment for the Economic and Social Council Chamber and the General Assembly Hall will be made in the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

9. With respect to the request referred to in paragraph 2.I above, this would involve additional translation, typing and printing costs.

10. On a full-cost basis, the additional requirements arising from the requests referred to in paragraphs 2.H and 2.I above are estimated at $107,900, as follows:

(a) Equipment for French press officers

Full provision is only made for coverage in English in the conference rooms at Headquarters. Equal provision for coverage in French would in a first phase entail the following additional costs in 1992-1993:

Section		$
41	Furniture (15 tables)	12 000
41	Wiring	1 500
41	Installation	1 000
31	Computer terminals (10 PCs)	20 000
	Subtotal (a)	34 500

(b) Press release on the General Assembly resolutions in Arabic and Spanish

The estimated requirements at full cost for producing the Arabic and Spanish versions of the compendium, on the same basis as the French version, would be as follows:

Section		$
31	Translation costs	28 000
31	Typing	30 400
41	Printing	15 000
	Subtotal (b)	73 400
	Total, (a) and (b)	107 900

D. Potential for absorption

11. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, it is anticipated that the estimated cost in 1993 of phased measures to achieve parity in the press coverage of meetings in English and French would be absorbed from

existing appropriations under sections 31 ($20,000) and 33, now proposed for transfer to section 41 ($14,500), of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

12. In order to produce the compendium of press releases containing the resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly in the Arabic and Spanish languages as of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, the Department of Public Information would redeploy regular budget funds earmarked for the organization of the annual United Nations Day Concert for that year. (The United Nations Day Concert is normally financed from a mix of regular budget and extrabudgetary funds.) The Department of Public Information would instead finance the 1993 Concert from available and expected extrabudgetary credits in the United Nations Day Concert Trust Fund Account. Requirements for producing the Arabic and Spanish language versions of the compendium in 1994-1995 would be reflected in the context of the proposed programme budget for that biennium.

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Agenda item 73

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

United States of America: draft resolution

Assistance to Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/46 A of 9 December 1991 and all its previous resolutions on the question, including resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948,

Taking note of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992, 1/

1. Notes with deep regret that repatriation or compensation of the refugees as provided for in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III) has not been effected, that no substantial progress has been made in the programme endorsed by the Assembly in paragraph 2 of its resolution 513 (VI) of 26 January 1952 for the reintegration of refugees either by repatriation or resettlement and that, therefore, the situation of the refugees continues to be a matter of serious concern;

2. Expresses its thanks to the Commissioner-General and to all the staff of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, recognizing that the Agency is doing all it can within the

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/47/13).

limits of available resources, and also expresses its thanks to the specialized agencies and private organizations for their valuable work in assisting the refugees;

3. Reiterates its request that the headquarters of the Agency should be relocated to its former site within its area of operations as soon as practicable;

4. Notes with regret that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), 2/ and requests the Commission to exert continued efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 1993;

5. Directs attention to the continuing seriousness of the financial position of the Agency, as outlined in the report of the Commissioner-General;

6. Notes with profound concern that, despite the commendable and successful efforts of the Commissioner-General to collect additional contributions, this increased level of income to the Agency is still insufficient to cover essential budget requirements in the present year and that, at currently foreseen levels of giving, deficits will recur each year;

7. Calls upon all Governments, as a matter of urgency, to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, particularly in the light of the budgetary deficit projected in the report of the Commissioner-General, and therefore urges non-contributing Governments to contribute regularly and contributing Governments to consider increasing their regular contributions;

8. Decides to extend the mandate of the Agency until 30 June 1996, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III).

2/ A/46/373, annex.

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UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2656 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2728 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, 2791 (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, 46/46 B of 9 December 1991 and the previous resolutions on this question,

Recalling also its decision 35/462 of 16 March 1982, whereby it took note of the special report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, 1/ and adopted the recommendations contained therein,

Having considered the report of the Working Group, 2/

1/ A/36/866 and Corr.1; see also A/37/591.

2/ A/47/576.

Taking into account the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992, 3/

Deeply concerned at the critical financial situation of the Agency, which has affected and affects the continuation of the provision of the necessary Agency services to the Palestine refugees, including the emergency-related programmes,

Emphasizing the continuing need for extraordinary efforts in order to maintain, at least at the present minimum level, the activities of the Agency, as well as to enable the Agency to carry out essential construction,

1. Commends the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for its efforts to assist in ensuring the Agency's financial security;

2. Takes note with approval of the report of the Working Group;

3. Requests the Working Group to continue its efforts, in cooperation with the Secretary-General and the Commissioner-General, for the financing of the Agency for a further period of one year;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/47/13).

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UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mali, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Sweden: draft resolution

Assistance to persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/46 C of 9 December 1991 and all previous resolutions on the question,

Taking note of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992, 1/

Concerned about the continued human suffering resulting from the hostilities in the Middle East,

1. Reaffirms its resolution 46/46 C and all its previous resolutions on the question;

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/47/13).

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/...

2. Endorses, bearing in mind the objectives of those resolutions, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance as far as practicable, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure, to other persons in the area who are at present displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities;

3. Strongly appeals to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously for the above purposes to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned.

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UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Pakistan and Zambia: draft resolution

Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 212 (III) of 19 November 1948 on assistance to Palestine refugees,

Recalling also its resolutions 35/13 B of 3 November 1980, 36/146 H of 16 December 1981, 37/120 D of 16 December 1982, 38/83 D of 15 December 1983, 39/99 D of 14 December 1984, 40/165 D of 16 December 1985, 41/69 D of 3 December 1986, 42/69 D of 2 December 1987, 43/57 D of 6 December 1988, 44/47 D of 8 December 1989, 45/73 D of 11 December 1990 and 46/46 D of 9 December 1991,

Cognizant of the fact that the Palestine refugees have, for the last four decades, lost their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 1/

1/ A/47/488.

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/...

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992, 2/

1. Urges all States to respond to the appeal contained in its resolution 32/90 F of 13 December 1977 and reiterated in subsequent relevant resolutions in a manner commensurate with the needs of Palestine refugees for higher education, including vocational training;

2. Strongly appeals to all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to augment the special allocations for grants and scholarships to Palestine refugees, in addition to their contributions to the regular budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

3. Expresses its appreciation to all Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations that responded favourably to its resolutions 41/69 D, 42/69 D, 43/57 D, 44/47 D, 45/73 D and 46/46 D;

4. Invites the relevant specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue, within their respective spheres of competence, to extend assistance for higher education to Palestine refugee students;

5. Appeals to all States, specialized agencies and the United Nations University to contribute generously to the Palestinian universities in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including, in due course, the proposed University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees;

6. Also appeals to all States, specialized agencies and other international bodies to contribute towards the establishmwnt of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees;

7. Requests the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships and to award them to qualified Palestine refugee candidates;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/47/13).

UNITED NATIONS

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Forty-seventh session
SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE
Agenda item 73

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Comoros, India, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Pakistan and Zambia: draft resolution

Resumption of the ration distribution to Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/146 F of 16 December 1981, 37/120 F of 16 December 1982, 38/83 F of 15 December 1983, 39/99 F of 14 December 1984, 40/165 F of 16 December 1985, 41/69 F of 3 December 1986, 42/69 F of 2 December 1987, 43/57 F of 6 December 1988, 44/47 F of 8 December 1989, 45/73 F of 11 December 1990, 46/46 F of 9 December 1991 and all its previous resolutions on the question, including resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 1/

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992, 2/

1/ A/47/490.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/47/13).

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992, 2/

Recalling the provisions of paragraph 11 of its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, and considering that measures to resettle Palestine refugees in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967 away from their homes and property from which they were displaced constitute a violation of their inalienable right of return,

Alarmed by the reports received from the Commissioner-General that the Israeli occupying authorities, in contravention of Israel's obligation under international law, persist in their policy of demolishing shelters occupied by refugee families,

1. Strongly reiterates its demand that Israel desist from the removal and resettlement of Palestine refugees in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967 and from the destruction of their shelters;

2. Requests the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to address the acute situation of the Palestine refugees in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967 and accordingly to extend all the services of the Agency to those refugees;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Commissioner-General, to resume issuing identification cards to all Palestine refugees and their descendants in the occupied Palestinian territory, irrespective of whether or not they are recipients of rations and services of the Agency;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly, before the opening of its forty-eighth session, on the implementation of the present resolution and in particular on Israel's compliance with paragraph 1 above.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/47/13).

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UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Pakistan and Zambia: draft resolution

Palestine refugees in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967

The General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Recalling also its resolutions 2792 C (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, 2963 C (XXVII) of 13 December 1972, 3089 C (XXVIII) of 7 December 1973, 3331 D (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, 3419 C (XXX) of 8 December 1975, 31/15 E of 23 November 1976, 32/90 C of 13 December 1977, 33/112 E of 18 December 1978, 34/52 F of 23 November 1979, 35/13 F of 3 November 1980, 36/146 A of 16 December 1981, 37/120 E and I of 16 December 1982, 38/83 E and J of 15 December 1983, 39/99 E and J of 14 December 1984, 40/165 E and J of 16 December 1985, 41/69 E and J of 3 December 1986, 42/69 E and J of 2 December 1987, 43/57 E of 6 December 1988, 44/47 E of 8 December 1989, 45/73 E of 11 December 1990 and 46/46 E of 9 December 1991,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 1/

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

1/ A/47/489.

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, covering the period from 1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992, 2/

Recalling the provisions of paragraph 11 of its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, and considering that measures to resettle Palestine refugees in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967 away from their homes and property from which they were displaced constitute a violation of their inalienable right of return,

Alarmed by the reports received from the Commissioner-General that the Israeli occupying authorities, in contravention of Israel's obligation under international law, persist in their policy of demolishing shelters occupied by refugee families,

1. Strongly reiterates its demand that Israel desist from the removal and resettlement of Palestine refugees in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967 and from the destruction of their shelters;

2. Requests the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to address the acute situation of the Palestine refugees in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967 and accordingly to extend all the services of the Agency to those refugees;

3. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Commissioner-General, to resume issuing identification cards to all Palestine refugees and their descendants in the occupied Palestinian territory, irrespective of whether or not they are recipients of rations and services of the Agency;

4. Also requests the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly, before the opening of its forty-eighth session, on the implementation of the present resolution and in particular on Israel's compliance with paragraph 1 above.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13 (A/47/13).

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UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Comoros, Indonesia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Pakistan and Zambia: draft resolution

Palestine refugees in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967

The General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Recalling also its resolutions 2792 C (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, 2963 C (XXVII) of 13 December 1972, 3089 C (XXVIII) of 7 December 1973, 3331 D (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, 3419 C (XXX) of 8 December 1975, 31/15 E of 23 November 1976, 32/90 C of 13 December 1977, 33/112 E of 18 December 1978, 34/52 F of 23 November 1979, 35/13 F of 3 November 1980, 36/146 A of 16 December 1981, 37/120 E and I of 16 December 1982, 38/83 E and J of 15 December 1983, 39/99 E and J of 14 December 1984, 40/165 E and J of 16 December 1985, 41/69 E and J of 3 December 1986, 42/69 E and J of 2 December 1987, 43/57 E of 6 December 1988, 44/47 E of 8 December 1989, 45/73 E of 11 December 1990 and 46/46 E of 9 December 1991,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 1/

1/ A/47/489.

Deeply concerned at the interruption by the Agency, owing to financial difficulties, of the general ration distribution to Palestine refugees in all fields,

1. Regrets that its resolutions 37/120 F, 38/83 F, 39/99 F, 40/165 F, 41/69 F, 42/69 F, 43/57 F, 44/47 F, 45/73 F and 46/46 F have not been implemented;

2. Calls once again upon all Governments, as a matter of urgency, to make the most generous efforts possible and to offer the necessary resources to meet the needs of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, particularly in the light of the interruption by the Agency of the general ration distribution to Palestine refugees in all fields, and therefore urges non-contributing Governments to contribute regularly and contributing Governments to consider increasing their regular contribution;

3. Requests the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to resume on a continuing basis the interrupted general ration distribution to Palestine refugees in all fields;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.